IOOS Legislation

Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act
Public Law No. 111-11

- **Directs President to establish a National Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System coordinated by the NORLC (Council)**
  - Council provides System policy oversight & coordination
  - Approves & Adopts System budgets developed by the Committee
  - Develops Public/Private Use Policy w/in 6 months of enactment
  - Establishes Interagency Ocean Observation Committee

- **Interagency Ocean Observation Committee (Committee)**
  - Prepare annual & long-term plans for System design, maintenance & expansion
  - Provide annual coordinated, comprehensive budget requests to Congress
  - Establish observation variables & consult with regions on System obs priorities
  - Establish System protocols and standards for DMAC
  - Develop certification standards and compliance procedures for non-federal assets including Regional Information Coordination Entities (RICEs)
  - Identify gaps in observation coverage or needs for capital improvements of federal & non-federal assets
  - Obtain an independent cost estimate for System operations & maintenance
    - *within 1 year of enactment, through NOAA & NSF Administrators*

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- **Identifies NOAA as Lead Federal Agency**
  - Establish an IOOS Program Office within NOAA utilizing interagency staff
  - Implement a merit-based competitive funding process for non-federal assets
  - Develop evaluation & review process for all non-federal assets
  - Formulate annual process to identify gaps in observation coverage or needs for capital improvements to federal and non-federal assets
  - Develop & be responsible for DMAC
  - Establish a System Advisory Committee
- **Regional Information Coordination Entities (RICEs)**
  - Certified or established by contract/agreement by NOAA Administrator
  - Identify gaps in observation coverage or needs for capitol improvements to federal and non-federal assets (and make other recommendations for required plans)
  - Develop & operate under a strategic operational plan
- **Report to Congress w/in 2 years of enactment and every 2 years thereafter**
  - Identification of federal and non-federal assets integrated into the System
  - Description of benefits to users of data products resulting from the System
  - Recommendations on System modifications and future funding levels
- **Establishes Civil Liability Provision**
- **Authorizes appropriation of "such sums as are necessary" through 2013**